Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, In 1882, a small group of settlers arrived in the Kidder, South Dakota, area from Chippewa County, Minnesota; and,

Whereas, In 1884, Reverend K.O. Storlie of Wilmot encouraged the settlers to gather in order to form the Norwegian Lutheran Church, now known as the Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church; and,

Whereas, School houses were used to hold services until 1904 when Jacob Hanson donated an acre of land to build a church, and the Ladies Aid later purchased a second acre of land followed by the installation of the original fence; and,

Whereas, The Norwegian language was used exclusively until 1921, and eventually four English services were incorporated into the schedule until 1938, when all-English services became the norm; and,

Whereas, In 1948, beautiful stained glass windows were installed, followed by numerous improvements to modernize the facility and surrounding grounds; and,

Whereas, The 1970s brought continued upgrades to include used pews purchased from Montana, a restroom, glass doors, basement windows, audio system, new shingles, and paint, and in 1984, preparations were made to celebrate the 100th Anniversary with the installation of a telephone, more paint, and new carpet; and,

Whereas, Additional improvements of an Electric Eternal Light, steel siding, new well with improved plumbing, and repair of the original steeple continue to enhance the physical charm of the church, providing a wonderful environment for faithful patrons, young and old, to worship; and,

Whereas, Having been served by 23 pastors during its existence, the Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church prepares to celebrate its 125th Anniversary on Sunday, July 12, 2009:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim July 12, 2009, as

PLEASANT VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-third Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Teresa J. Bray, Deputy

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State